

Message Text

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W0
ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 IO-10 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /058 W
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R 272154Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9632
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU
SUBJECT: ICFTU CONGRESS - MEXICO

REF: BRUSSELS 07501

1. ORIT OFFICER UNAWARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED WORKING GROUP
MEETING OCT 11-12. ORIT OFFICE NOT BEING CONSULTED ADMINI-
STRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. RAFAEL CAMACHO, MEXICAN PRESIDENT
OF ORIT AND SECRETARY INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF CTM RESPONSIBLE
ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONGRESS BUT HE NOT COMMUNICATING WITH ORIT
OFFICE. NOTHING SHOULD BE READ INTO THIS. CAMACHO HAS REPUTATION
AS POOR ADMINISTRATOR PLUS RUMOR THAT GOM IS SPENDING BETWEEN
TWENTY-FOUR TO THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND US DOLLARS ON CONGRESS EXPENSES
WHICH CAMACHO PROBABLY HANDLING VERY PRIVATELY.

2. ORIT OFFICER SAID LATEST PLANS CALL FOR ORIT EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL MEETING OCT 13-14 FOLLOWED BY ICFTU EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL MEETING OCT 15-16 FOLLOWED BY INAUGURATION OF
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CONGRESS IN MEDICAL CENTER INTERNATIONAL AUDITORIUM ON

OCT 17. ORIT INSTITUTE IN CUERNAVACA CONSIDERED TOO SMALL FOR EXPECTED PARTICIPATION OF SIX HUNDRED DELEGATES AND ASSISTANTS PLUS OBSERVERS. SAME ORIT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ORIGINAL PLANS INCLUDED AN AUGUST MEETING OF ICFTU WORKING GROUP IN MEXICO CITY FOLLOWED BY VISITS TO SEVERAL MAJOR LA CAPITALS PLUS A MEETING IN WASHINGTON WITH AFL-CIO. THIS PLAN EVIDENTLY SCRAPPED BY ICFTU FOR UNKNOWN REASONS. ADDITIONAL UNCONFIRMED INFORMATION RECEIVED BY LABATT THAT JULIO ECHEVERRY, SEC GEN OF ORIT, NOT ON ICFTU CONGRESS INAUGURATION AGENDA. (COMMENT: THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS INSULT BY ECHEVERRY AND PERHAPS BY OTHER LA LABOR LEADERS.)

3. FIDEL VELAZQUEZ REPORTEDLY HAS NOT CHANGED POSITION ON INSISTING THAT ANY REORGANIZATION OF ORIT MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN ORIT'S CONSTITUTIONAL GUIDELINES AND NOT AS MANDATE FOR ICFTU. LATIN AMERICAN LABOR LEADERS CAN BE EXPECTED TO OBJECT TO ANY ATTEMPT ON PART OF EUROPEANS TO ASSERT CONSTITUTIONAL CONTROL OVER ORIT OR SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION ACCORDING TO ORIT SPOKESMAN.

4. ALSO UNCONFIRMED IS GOM'S OFFER OF \$80,000 US FOR CUERNAVACA TRADE UNION INSTITUTE AS OPPOSED TO ICFTU ASKING PRICE OF \$215,000 US WHICH REPRESENTS UNPAID ICFTU NO INTEREST LOAN TO INSTITUTE MADE SOME YEARS AGO. (COMMENT: GOM MAY WANT INSTITUTE FACILITIES AS PART OF WORKER RECREATIONAL PROGRAM RECENTLY ANNOUNCED BY SECRETARY OF LABOR, MUÑOZ-LEDO. DISPOSITION OF INSTITUTE PLUS SUBSTANTIAL OPERATING SUBSIDY PAID BY ICFTU FOR MINIMAL INSTITUTE ACTIVITY MAY CREATE VERY PRIVATE STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MEXICANS AND EUROPEANS DURING CONGRESS. PUBLICLY MEXICANS CAN BE EXPECTED TO PUSH FORWARD PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S BID FOR THIRD WORLD LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT HIS INTEREST IN BECOMING NEXT SECRETARY GENERAL OF UN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, LABOR UNIONS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greenet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO07607
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750297-0703
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750814/aaaaalph.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SIL
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BRUSSELS 7501
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greenet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <01 OCT 2003 by greenet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICFTU CONGRESS - MEXICO
TAGS: ELAB, XM, MX, ICFTU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006